InterChanges

Your Letters



Transportation conjures up different meanings for different people. Super highways to country lanes, suburban streets to inner-city avenues – they're all part of 21st century transportation. So are barges and bridges and the rivers they cross, city buses and rapid transit, airplanes and Amtrak, Adopt-A-Highway and rest areas, snowplows and mowers and more.

But when all is said and done, transportation simply comes down to one basic meaning, and that is getting from here to there. That's what *Pathways* is all about. Every issue presents a

variety of stories about the different aspects of transportation in general and the Missouri Department of Transportation in particular. Certainly in each issue you'll learn something you didn't know before.

For example, in this edition you'll read about two new programs MoDOT participates in that will boost our enjoyment of Missouri's scenic beauty: "Grow Native!," which turns roadsides into natural gardens, and "No MOre Trash!," the state's first-ever anti-litter campaign.

You'll learn about the remarkable relics at the Museum of Transportation in St. Louis and about Missouri's southwest corner, where the prairie and the past mingle. And don't miss the interesting story about schoolchildren's fascination with Interstate 70. Their ideas about how to fix the highway range from amusing to quite impressive!

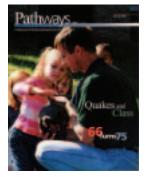
We'd also like to give you a look behind the scenes at MoDOT. You'll read how recent changes in signing, striping and signals make driving in Missouri safer for all drivers, but especially for seniors. Also, get a glimpse inside MoDOT's Automated Road Analyzer van, a technological marvel that measures every minute detail of Missouri's major roadways.

Besides this introductory column, we're starting another new feature in this issue: Your Letters. Please tell us what you think about *Pathways*, MoDOT and Missouri transportation. Send letters to Pathways, 105 W. Capitol Ave., Jefferson City, MO 65102, or e-mails to *comments@mail.modot.state.mo.us*. We sincerely look forward to hearing from you.

Henry Hungerbeeler

Director

Missouri Department of Transportation



Spring 2002

I just read the Spring 2002 *Pathways* and really enjoyed the article about the dig at the New Madrid earthquake site ("Great Quakes!"). I've read several books about the New Madrid quake and have always been interested in the subject. I also enjoyed the great article and photography on the old bridges ("For A Free Bridge Call MoDOT"). Both my husband and I found it really interesting and the pictures were just great. I always read the *Missouri Conservationist* and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources magazine, but I think *Pathways* should get as much recognition as those other two. Great work.

Marge Schramm St. Louis

The writer is a member of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.

It is a pleasure to enclose 10 copies of the June 2002 issue of *PublicWorks* magazine, in which we featured the article, "For A Free Bridge Call MoDOT" (Spring 2002). This material will be of interest and value to our readers and your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Judy L. Flanigan Ridgewood, N.J.

The writer is managing editor of Public-Works magazine.

Your *Pathways* magazine is outstanding! I read the Spring 2002 issue and the feature on bridges was most interesting. We would be interested in using some of the photos as our front cover, or in the "Better Bridges" section of our magazine.

Michael Porcaro Des Plaines, Ill.

The writer is the publisher of Better Roads magazine.

I just finished reading *Pathways* and wanted to congratulate you on what has become a first-rate global publication. It just gets better with each issue! *Pathways* has grown beyond just transportation to include people, history, natural and manmade beauty and items of public interest. It clearly demonstrates a global perspective of how transportation in our state allows and enhances our chances to participate in our state's beauty.

Tom Stevener St. Louis

The writer is a vice president at Horner Shifrin Engineering.



Fall 2002

I recently received a copy of the Fall 2001 *Pathways* magazine and was totally imressed. I love to travel the back roads of our fantastic state and do so every chance I get

with my motor home. With retirement a few months away, I want to search out the neat places you talk about. I've been all over the state but there are still new places to go.

R. J. McAllister Lebanon, Mo.



Summer 2001

In the Summer 2001 issue of *Pathways*, the author states, "On the 17-acre property (of the old Arcadia Valley Academy) is a gymnasium with one of the world's three remaining lamella roofs." If the statement is correct, I find it amazing that all three of the remaining lamella roofs are located in Missouri, as there are two lamella roofed buildings in use today in Sedalia. I thought that might be of interest.

Burl Sammons Sedalia, Mo.



I was put off by your censorship of the cover photo on the Summer 2001 *Pathways* magazine. The photographer deserved to have his work shown. I am very capable of deciding if I like the picture. Those folks who are traumatized will always be traumatized. What happened on Sept. 11 was very unsettling but seeing a picture of an old bridge being blown up would have little shock value. Since we were shown the [World Trade Center] tower pictures about 10,000 times, the bridge picture is pretty tame. So get a life and forget deciding what I should see.

Don Howerton via e-mail

Pathways welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please send your letters to:

Editor, Pathways
Missouri Department of Transportation
Public Information and Outreach
105 W. Capitol Ave.
Jefferson City, MO 65102; or send your e-mail to:
comments@mail.modot.state.mo.us

Please include your name, address and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be printed.